# AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 3879

## OFFERED BY MS. HAALAND OF NEW MEXICO

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

### 1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

- 2 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
- 3 "Simplifying Outdoor Access for Recreation Act" or the
- 4 "SOAR Act".
- 5 (b) Table of Contents of
- 6 this Act is as follows:
  - Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
  - Sec. 2. Definitions.
  - Sec. 3. Sense of Congress regarding outdoor recreation.

#### TITLE I—MODERNIZING RECREATION PERMITTING

- Sec. 101. Definitions.
- Sec. 102. Special recreation permit and fee.
- Sec. 103. Permitting process improvements.
- Sec. 104. Permit flexibility.
- Sec. 105. Permit administration.
- Sec. 106. Permits for multijurisdictional trips.
- Sec. 107. Forest Service permit use reviews.
- Sec. 108. Liability.
- Sec. 109. Cost recovery reform.
- Sec. 110. Extension of special recreation permits.
- Sec. 111. Availability of Federal and State recreation passes.
- Sec. 112. Online purchases of America the Beautiful—The National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass.

#### TITLE II—ACCESSING THE OUTDOORS

Sec. 201. Access for servicemembers and veterans.

#### TITLE III—MAKING RECREATION A PRIORITY

Sec. 301. Extension of seasonal recreation opportunities.

Sec. 302. Recreation performance metrics.

Sec. 303. Recreation mission.

#### TITLE IV—MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC LAND

#### Subtitle A—Volunteers

Sec. 401. Private-sector volunteer enhancement program.

Sec. 402. Enhancing outdoor recreation through public lands service organizations.

#### Subtitle B—Priority Trail Maintenance

Sec. 411. Interagency trail management.

#### 1 SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

2	In this Act:
3	(1) FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY.—
4	The term "Federal land management agency" has
5	the meaning given the term in section 802 of the
6	Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16
7	U.S.C. 6801).
8	(2) Federal recreational lands and

- 9 WATERS.—The term "Federal recreational lands and waters" has the meaning given the term in section 802 of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6801).
- 13 (3) Secretaries.—Except as otherwise provided in this Act, the term "Secretaries" means—
- 15 (A) the Secretary of the Interior; and
- 16 (B) the Secretary of Agriculture.
- 17 SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING OUTDOOR
- 18 **RECREATION.**
- 19 It is the sense of Congress that—

1	(1) outdoor recreation and the outdoor industry
2	that outdoor recreation supports are vital to the
3	United States;
4	(2) access to outdoor recreation on Federal rec-
5	reational lands and waters is important to the health
6	and wellness of all people of the United States, espe-
7	cially young people;
8	(3) in addition to the overall economic benefit
9	of outdoor recreation, the economic benefits of out-
10	door recreation on Federal recreational lands and
11	waters creates significant economic and employment
12	benefits to rural economies;
13	(4) Congress supports the creation of outdoor
14	recreation sector leadership positions within State
15	governments, as well as coordination with recreation
16	and tourism organizations within the State to guide
17	the growth of this sector, as evidenced by recent ex-
18	amples in the States of Colorado, Utah, and Wash-
19	ington;
20	(5) State and local recreation and tourism of-
21	fices play a pivotal role in—
22	(A) coordinating State outdoor recreation
23	policies, management, and promotion among
24	Federal, State, and local agencies and entities;

1	(B) disseminating information, increasing
2	awareness, and growing demand for outdoor
3	recreation experiences among visitors across the
4	United States and throughout the world;
5	(C) improving funding for, access to, and
6	participation in outdoor recreation; and
7	(D) promoting economic development in
8	the State by coordinating with stakeholders, im-
9	proving recreational opportunities, and recruit-
10	ing outdoor recreation businesses;
11	(6) it is vital—
12	(A) to support the coordination and col-
13	laboration of the Federal and State land and
14	water management agencies in the delivery of
15	visitor services and management of outdoor
16	recreation for the United States; and
17	(B) provide adequate staffing within Fed-
18	eral land management agencies to facilitate sus-
19	tainable and accessible outdoor recreation op-
20	portunities; and
21	(7) volunteers and volunteer partnerships play
22	an important role in maintaining public land.

# 1 TITLE I—MODERNIZING 2 RECREATION PERMITTING

3	SEC. 101. DEFINITIONS.
4	In this title:
5	(1) Associated agency.—The term "associ-
6	ated agency" means the Federal land management
7	agency, other than the lead agency, that manages a
8	public land unit that is the subject of a single joint
9	special recreation permit under section 106.
10	(2) Lead agency.—With respect to a single
11	joint special recreation permit application submitted
12	under section 106(a), the term "lead agency" means
13	the Federal land management agency designated to
14	administer the single joint special recreation permit
15	under section $106(a)(2)$ .
16	(3) Long-term special recreation per-
17	MIT.—The term "long-term special recreation per-
18	mit' means—
19	(A) for a public land unit managed by the
20	Forest Service, a priority use permit; and
21	(B) for a public land unit managed by the
22	Bureau of Land Management, a multiyear spe-
23	cial recreation permit.
24	(4) MULTIJURISDICTIONAL TRIP.—The term
25	"multijurisdictional trip" means a trip that—

1	(A) uses 2 or more public land units; and
2	(B) is under the jurisdiction of 2 or more
3	Federal land management agencies.
4	(5) Public land unit.—The term "public
5	land unit" means—
6	(A) a unit of the National Forest System;
7	(B) a unit of the National Park System;
8	(C) a unit of the National Wildlife Refuge
9	System;
10	(D) a district of the Bureau of Land Man-
11	agement; and
12	(E) a project of the Bureau of Reclama-
13	tion.
14	(6) Secretary concerned.—The term "Sec-
15	retary concerned" means—
16	(A) the Secretary of Agriculture, with re-
17	spect to a public land unit described in para-
18	graph $(5)(A)$ ; and
19	(B) the Secretary of the Interior, with re-
20	spect to a public land unit described in sub-
21	paragraph (B), (C), (D), or (E) of paragraph
22	(5).
23	(7) Special recreation permit.—The term
24	"special recreation permit" has the meaning given

1	the term in section 802 of the Federal Lands Recre-
2	ation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6801).
3	SEC. 102. SPECIAL RECREATION PERMIT AND FEE.
4	(a) Definitions.—Section 802 of the Federal Lands
5	Recreation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6801) is amend-
6	ed—
7	(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "section 3(f)"
8	and inserting "803(f)";
9	(2) in paragraph (2), by striking "section 3(g)"
10	and inserting "section 803(g)";
11	(3) in paragraph (6), by striking "section 5"
12	and inserting "section 805";
13	(4) in paragraph (9), by striking "section 5"
14	and inserting "section 805";
15	(5) in paragraph (12), by striking "section 7"
16	and inserting "section 807";
17	(6) in paragraph (13), by striking "section
18	3(h)" and inserting "section 803(h)";
19	(7) by redesignating paragraphs (1), (3), (4),
20	(5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), and (13) as para-
21	graphs $(15)$ , $(1)$ , $(3)$ , $(4)$ , $(5)$ , $(6)$ , $(7)$ , $(8)$ , $(11)$ ,
22	(10), and (14), respectively, and moving the para-
23	graphs so as to appear in numerical order;
24	(8) by inserting after paragraph (8) (as so re-
25	designated) the following:

1	"(9) Recreation service provider.—The
2	term 'recreation service provider' means an indi-
3	vidual or entity that—
4	"(A) provides outfitting, guiding, or other
5	recreation services; or
6	"(B) conducts recreational or competitive
7	events, including incidental sales."; and
8	(9) by inserting after paragraph (12) the fol-
9	lowing:
10	"(13) Special recreation permit.—The
11	term 'special recreation permit' means a permit
12	issued by a Federal Land Management Agency for
13	specialized individual or group uses of Federal rec-
14	reational lands and waters, including—
15	"(A) for outfitting, guiding, or other recre-
16	ation services;
17	"(B) for recreation or competitive events,
18	which may include incidental sales;
19	"(C) for the use of—
20	"(i) a special area; or
21	"(ii) an area in which use is allocated;
22	"(D) for motorized recreational vehicle use
23	in compliance with an applicable travel manage-
24	ment plan or other regulation; and
25	"(E) for a group activity or event.".

1	(b) Special Recreation Permit and Fee.—Sec-
2	tion 803 of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement
3	Act (16 U.S.C. 6802) is amended—
4	(1) in subsection (b)(5), by striking "section
5	4(d)" and inserting "section 804(d)"; and
6	(2) by striking subsection (h) and inserting the
7	following:
8	"(h) Special Recreation Permit and Fee.—
9	"(1) Special recreation permit.—The Sec-
10	retary may issue a special recreation permit for spe-
11	cialized individual or group uses of Federal rec-
12	reational lands and waters as defined in section
13	802(13) of this Act (16 U.S.C. 6801).
14	"(2) Special recreation permit fee.—
15	"(A) In General.—The Secretary may
16	charge a special recreation permit fee in con-
17	nection with the issuance of a special recreation
18	permit under paragraph (1).
19	"(B) Fees for certain lands.—
20	"(i) In general.—Subject to clauses
21	(ii) and (iii), a special recreation permit fee
22	under subparagraph (A) for use of Federal
23	recreational lands and waters managed by
24	the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land
25	Management, the Bureau of Reclamation,

1	or the United States Fish and Wildlife
2	Service shall not exceed the difference be-
3	tween—
4	"(I) the sum of—
5	"(aa) 3 percent of the an-
6	nual gross revenue of the recre-
7	ation service provider for all ac-
8	tivities authorized by the special
9	recreation permit; and
10	"(bb) any applicable revenue
11	addition; and
12	"(II) any applicable revenue ex-
13	clusion.
14	"(ii) Exclusion of certain reve-
15	NUES AND PAYMENTS.—In calculating the
16	amount of a fee for a special recreation
17	permit under clause (i), the Secretary con-
18	cerned shall exclude—
19	"(I) revenue from goods, services,
20	souvenirs, merchandise, gear, food,
21	and activities provided or sold by a
22	special recreation permit holder in a
23	location other than the Federal rec-
24	reational lands and waters covered by
25	the permit, including transportation

1	costs, lodging, and any other service
2	before or after a trip; and
3	"(II) revenue from any rec-
4	reational services provided by a spe-
5	cial recreation permit holder for ac-
6	tivities on Federal recreational lands
7	and waters for which a separate per-
8	mit is issued.
9	"(iii) Alternative per-person
10	$\mathrm{FEE}.$
11	"(I) IN GENERAL.—For Federal
12	recreational lands and waters man-
13	aged by the Forest Service, the Bu-
14	reau of Land Management, the Bu-
15	reau of Reclamation, or the United
16	States Fish and Wildlife Service, the
17	Secretary may charge a per-person fee
18	in connection with the issuance of a
19	special recreation permit under para-
20	graph (1).
21	"(II) Amount of fee.—The
22	total amount charged by the Secretary
23	in connection with the issuance of a
24	special recreation permit under para-
25	graph (1) using a per-person fee

1	under subclause (I) shall not exceed
2	the amount the Secretary may charge
3	for a special recreation permit fee
4	under subparagraph (A) and clauses
5	(i) and (ii).
6	"(iv) Effect.—Nothing in this sub-
7	paragraph affects any fee for a commercial
8	use authorization for use of Federal rec-
9	reational lands and waters managed by the
10	National Park Service.
11	"(C) DISCLOSURE OF FEES.—A special
12	recreation permit holder may inform customers
13	of any fee charged by the Secretary under this
14	section.
15	"(3) Reports.—
16	"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
17	make available to holders of special recreation
18	permits under paragraph (1) and the public an
19	annual report describing the use of fees col-
20	lected by the Secretary under paragraph (2).
21	"(B) REQUIREMENTS.—The report under
22	subparagraph (A) shall include a description of
23	how the fees are used in each public land unit
24	(as defined in section 2 of the SOAR Act) ad-
25	ministered by the Secretary, including an iden-

1	tification of the amounts used for specific ac-
2	tivities within the public land unit.".
3	(c) Use of Special Recreation Permit Rev-
4	ENUE.—Section 808 of the Federal Lands Recreation En-
5	hancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6807) is amended—
6	(1) in subsection (a)(3)(F), by striking "section
7	6(a)" and inserting "section 806(a)";
8	(2) in subsection (d), by striking "section 5"
9	each place it appears and inserting "section 805";
10	(3) by redesignating subsections (b) through (d)
11	as subsections (c) through (e), respectively; and
12	(4) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
13	lowing:
14	"(b) Use of Special Recreation Permit Fee
15	REVENUE.—Revenue from a special recreation permit fee
16	may be used for—
17	"(1) the purposes described in subsection (a);
18	and
19	"(2) expenses—
20	"(A) associated with processing applica-
21	tions for special recreation permits; and
22	"(B) incurred in the improvement of the
23	operation of the special recreation permit sys-
24	tem.".

1	(d) Permanent Authorization.—Section 810 of
2	the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16
3	U.S.C. 6809) is amended—
4	(1) by striking "The authority" and inserting
5	the following:
6	"(a) In General.—Except as provided in subsection
7	(b), the authority"; and
8	(2) by adding at the end the following:
9	"(b) Applicability.—Subsection (a) shall not apply
10	to—
11	"(1) section 802;
12	"(2) subsection $(d)(2)$ or $(h)$ of section 803; or
13	"(3) subsection (a), (b) or (c) of section 808.".
14	SEC. 103. PERMITTING PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS.
15	(a) In General.—To simplify the process of the
16	issuance and renewal of special recreation permits and re-
17	duce the cost of administering special recreation permits,
18	the Secretary concerned shall—
19	(1) not later than 180 days after the date of
20	enactment of this Act—
21	(A) evaluate the special recreation permit-
22	ting process; and
23	(B) identify opportunities—
24	(i) to eliminate duplicative processes;
25	(ii) to reduce costs; and

1	(iii) to decrease processing times; and
2	(2) not later than 180 days after the date on
3	which the Secretary concerned completes the evalua-
4	tion and identification processes under paragraph
5	(1), revise, as necessary, relevant agency regulations
6	and policy statements to implement the improve-
7	ments identified under paragraph (1)(B).
8	(b) CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS.—
9	(1) In general.—Not later than 1 year after
10	the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary con-
11	cerned shall—
12	(A) evaluate whether 1 or more additional
13	categorical exclusions developed in compliance
14	with the National Environmental Policy Act of
15	$1969~(42~\mathrm{U.S.C.}~4321~\mathrm{et}~\mathrm{seq.})$ would reduce
16	processing times or costs for the issuance or re-
17	newal of special recreation permits without sig-
18	nificantly affecting the human environment;
19	and
20	(B) if the Secretary concerned determines
21	under subparagraph (A) that 1 or more addi-
22	tional categorical exclusions would reduce proc-
23	essing times or costs for the issuance or re-
24	newal of special recreation permits without sig-
25	nificantly affecting the human environment—

1	(i) establish those categorical exclu-
2	sions in compliance with the National En-
3	vironmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C.
4	4321 et seq.);
5	(ii) fully document that a category of
6	actions will not individually or cumulatively
7	have a significant effect on the human en-
8	vironment; and
9	(iii) revise relevant agency regulations
10	and policy statements to implement those
11	categorical exclusions.
12	(2) Administration.—
13	(A) In general.—In administering a cat-
14	egorical exclusion established under paragraph
15	(1)(B), the Secretary concerned shall comply
16	with the National Environmental Policy Act of
17	1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) (including regu-
18	lations promulgated pursuant to that Act).
19	(B) Extraordinary circumstances.—
20	In determining whether to use a categorical ex-
21	clusion established under paragraph (1)(B), the
22	Secretary concerned shall apply, as applicable,
23	the extraordinary circumstances procedures de-
24	scribed in—

1	(i) section 220.6 of title 36, Code of
2	Federal Regulations (or a successor regula-
3	tion); and
4	(ii) section 46.215 of title 43, Code of
5	Federal Regulations (or a successor regula-
6	tion).
7	(c) Needs Assessments.—Except as required
8	under subsection (c) or (d) of section 4 of the Wilderness
9	Act (16 U.S.C. 1133), the Secretary concerned shall not
10	conduct a needs assessment as a condition of issuing a
11	special recreation permit for a public land unit under this
12	Act.
13	(d) Online Applications.—The Secretary con-
14	cerned shall make applications for special recreation per-
15	mits available to be completed and submitted online unless
16	the Secretary concerned determines that making applica-
17	tions for special recreation permits available to be com-
18	pleted and submitted online would not improve the effi-
19	ciency or accessibility of the permitting process.
20	SEC. 104. PERMIT FLEXIBILITY.
21	(a) SIMILAR ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary concerned
22	shall establish a permit administration protocol that au-
23	thorizes, to the maximum extent practicable, a permittee
24	issued a special recreation permit for a public land unit
25	under section 803(h) of the Federal Lands Recreation En-

1	hancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6802(h)) to engage in a rec-
2	reational activity that is substantially similar to the spe-
3	cific activity authorized under the special recreation per-
4	mit, if the substantially similar recreational activity—
5	(1) is comparable in type, nature, scope, and
6	ecological setting to the specific activity authorized
7	under the special recreation permit;
8	(2) does not result in a greater impact on nat-
9	ural and cultural resources than the authorized ac-
10	tivity;
11	(3) does not adversely affect any other per-
12	mittee issued a special recreation permit for a public
13	land unit under that subsection;
14	(4) does not involve the use of a motor, includ-
15	ing an electric motor, for a previously non-motorized
16	use; and
17	(5) is consistent with any laws and regulations
18	(including land use or management plans) applying
19	to a public land unit.
20	(b) Voluntary Return of Surplus Service
21	DAYS.—The Secretary concerned shall establish a pro-
22	gram to allow a permittee issued a special recreation per-
23	mit for a public land unit to voluntarily and temporarily
24	return to the Secretary concerned 1 or more surplus serv-

1 ice days, to be made available to any other existing or potential permittee. 3 (c) Forest Service and Bureau of Land Man-AGEMENT TEMPORARY SPECIAL RECREATION 5 MITS.— 6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days 7 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-8 retary concerned shall establish and implement a 9 program to authorize the issuance of temporary spe-10 cial recreation permits for new or additional rec-11 reational uses of Federal recreational land and water 12 managed by the Forest Service and the Bureau of 13 Land Management. 14 (2) Term of temporary permits.—A tem-15 porary special recreation permit issued under para-16 graph (1) shall be issued for a period of not more 17 than 2 years. 18 (3) Conversion to Long-Term Permit.—If 19 the Secretary concerned determines that a permittee 20 under paragraph (1) has completed 2 years of satis-21 factory operation under the permit proposed to be 22 converted, the Secretary may provide for the conver-23 sion of a temporary special recreation permit issued 24 under paragraph (1) to a long-term special recre-25 ation permit.

1	(4) Effect.—Nothing in this subsection alters
2	or affects the authority of the Secretary to issue a
3	special recreation permit under subsection $(h)(1)$ of
4	section 803 of the Federal Lands Recreation En-
5	hancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6802).
6	SEC. 105. PERMIT ADMINISTRATION.
7	(a) Permit Availability.—
8	(1) Notification of Permit availability.—
9	(A) In general.—Except as provided in
10	subparagraphs (B) and (C), if the Secretary
11	concerned has determined that the Department
12	of Agriculture or the Department of the Inte-
13	rior, as applicable, is able to issue new special
14	recreation permits to recreation service pro-
15	viders seeking to use a public land unit, the
16	Secretary concerned shall publish that informa-
17	tion on the website of the agency that admin-
18	isters the relevant public land unit.
19	(B) Exception for certain permits.—
20	With respect to a public land unit managed by
21	the Forest Service or the Bureau of Land Man-
22	agement, subparagraph (A) shall apply only to
23	a long-term special recreation permit for the
24	public land unit.

1	(C) Exception for renewals and
2	REISSUANCES.—Subparagraph (A) shall not
3	apply to—
4	(i) a renewal or reissuance of an exist-
5	ing special recreation permit; or
6	(ii) a new special recreation permit
7	issued to the purchaser of a recreation
8	service provider that is the holder of an ex-
9	isting special recreation permit.
10	(D) Effect.—Nothing in this paragraph
11	creates a prerequisite to the issuance of a spe-
12	cial recreation permit or otherwise limits the
13	authority of the Secretary concerned—
14	(i) to issue a new special recreation
15	permit;
16	(ii) to add a new or additional use to
17	an existing special recreation permit; or
18	(iii) to make special recreation per-
19	mits available to members of the public.
20	(2) UPDATES.—The Secretary concerned shall
21	ensure that information published on the website
22	under this subsection is consistently updated to pro-
23	vide current and correct information to the public.
24	(3) ELECTRONIC MAIL NOTIFICATION.—The
25	Secretary concerned shall—

1	(A) establish a system by which potential
2	special recreation permit applicants may sub-
3	scribe to receive notification of the availability
4	of special recreation permits by electronic mail;
5	and
6	(B) direct employees of the Department of
7	Agriculture or the Department of the Interior,
8	as applicable, to use that system to notify the
9	public of the availability of special recreation
10	permits.
11	(b) Permit Application Acknowledgment.—Not
12	later than 60 days after the date on which the Secretary
13	of the Interior receives a completed application or the Sec-
14	retary of Agriculture receives a complete proposal for a
15	special recreation permit for a public land unit, the Sec-
16	retary concerned shall—
17	(1) provide to the applicant notice acknowl-
18	edging receipt of the application or proposal; and
19	(2)(A) issue a final decision with respect to the
20	application or proposal; or
21	(B) provide to the applicant notice of a pro-
22	jected date for a final decision on the application or
23	proposal.

# SEC. 106. PERMITS FOR MULTIJURISDICTIONAL TRIPS. 2 SINGLE JOINT SPECIAL RECREATION PER-3 MITS.— 4 (1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a multijuris-5 dictional trip, the Federal land management agen-6 cies with jurisdiction over the multijurisdictional trip 7 may offer to the applicant a single joint special 8 recreation permit that authorizes the use of each 9 public land unit under the jurisdiction of those Fed-10 eral land management agencies. 11 (2) Lead agency.—In offering a single joint 12 special recreation permit under paragraph (1), the 13 applicable Federal land management agencies shall 14 designate a lead agency for administering the single 15 joint special recreation permit based on the following 16 considerations: 17 (A) The length of the multijurisdictional 18 trip and the relative portions of the multijuris-19 dictional trip on each public land unit. 20 (B) The congressional or administrative 21 designations that apply to the areas to be used 22 during the multijurisdictional trip and the de-23 gree to which those designations impose limita-24 tions on recreational use. 25 (C) The relative ability of the Federal land

management agencies with jurisdiction over the

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1	multijurisdictional trip to respond to the single
2	joint special recreation permit application in a
3	timely manner.
4	(D) Other relevant administrative consider-
5	ations.
6	(3) APPLICATION.—An applicant desiring to be
7	offered a single joint special recreation permit under
8	paragraph (1) shall submit to the lead agency an ap-
9	plication, as required by the lead agency.
10	(4) OPTION TO APPLY FOR SEPARATE PER-
11	MITS.—An applicant for a special recreation permit
12	for a multijurisdictional trip may apply to each ap-
13	plicable Federal land management agency for a sep-
14	arate permit for the portion of the multijuris-
15	dictional trip on the public land unit managed by
16	each applicable Federal land management agency.
17	(5) Prohibitions.—Nothing in this section
18	shall be construed to allow an activity that would
19	otherwise be prohibited on the public land unit
20	where the activity would take place.
21	(b) Requirements.—In issuing a single joint special
22	recreation permit under subsection (a), the lead agency
23	shall—
24	(1) coordinate with each associated agency, con-
25	sistent with the authority of the Secretary concerned

1	under section 330 of the Department of the Interior
2	and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001 (43
3	U.S.C. 1703), to develop and issue 1 joint permit
4	that covers the entirety of the multijurisdictional
5	$ ext{trip};$
6	(2) in processing the joint special recreation
7	permit application, incorporate the findings, inter-
8	ests, and needs of the associated agency;
9	(3) in issuing the joint special recreation per-
10	mit, clearly identify the agencies that have the au-
11	thority to enforce the terms, stipulations, conditions
12	and agreements of the joint special recreation per-
13	mit, as determined under subsection (d); and
14	(4) complete the permitting process within a
15	reasonable timeframe.
16	(c) Cost Recovery.—The coordination with the as-
17	sociated agency under subsection (b) shall not be subject
18	to cost recovery.
19	(d) Enforcement Authority.—
20	(1) Delegation of authority to lead
21	AGENCY.—In administering a single joint special
22	recreation permit under subsection (a), the associ-
23	ated agency shall delegate to the lead agency the au-
24	thority—

1	(A) to enforce the terms, stipulations, con-
2	ditions, and agreements of the joint special
3	recreation permit, as may be required by the
4	regulations of the Secretary of the associated
5	agency; and
6	(B) to suspend, terminate, or revoke the
7	joint special recreation permit for—
8	(i) noncompliance with Federal, State,
9	or local laws and regulations;
10	(ii) noncompliance with the terms of
11	the joint special recreation permit; or
12	(iii) failure of the holder of the joint
13	special recreation permit to exercise the
14	privileges granted by the joint special
15	recreation permit.
16	(2) Retention of authority by the associ-
17	ATED AGENCY.—The associated agency shall retain
18	the authority to enforce the terms, stipulations, con-
19	ditions, and agreements in the joint special recre-
20	ation permit that apply specifically to the use occur-
21	ring on the public land unit managed by the associ-
22	ated agency.
23	(e) Withdrawal.—

1	(1) In General.—The lead agency or an asso-
2	ciated agency may withdraw from a joint special
3	recreation permit at any time.
4	(2) Issuance of separate permits.—
5	(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a with-
6	drawal by 1 or more agencies under paragraph
7	(1), if the holder of the joint special recreation
8	permit is in compliance with the requirements
9	of the joint special recreation permit, the lead
10	agency and each associated agency shall issue
11	to the holder of the joint special recreation per-
12	mit a new, separate special recreation permit
13	for any use occurring on the public land unit
14	managed by the agency.
15	(B) Requirements.—A special recreation
16	permit issued under subparagraph (A) shall
17	contain the same or substantially similar terms,
18	conditions, and operating stipulations as the
19	joint special recreation permit from which an
20	agency has withdrawn under paragraph (1).
21	(C) NO NEW APPLICATION.—The holder of
22	a joint special recreation permit from which an
23	agency has withdrawn under paragraph (1)
24	shall not be required to submit a new applica-

1	tion for a separate special recreation permit
2	under subparagraph (A).
3	(f) Treatment of Public Land Units Charging
4	ENTRANCE FEES.—Entrance fees may still be collected
5	in addition to any special recreation permit fees for any
6	trip that originates on, or outside of but passes through,
7	a public lands unit that charges such fees.
8	SEC. 107. FOREST SERVICE PERMIT USE REVIEWS.
9	(a) In General.—If the Secretary of Agriculture
10	(referred to in this section as the "Secretary") conducts
11	a special recreation permit use review in renewing a spe-
12	cial recreation permit or adjusting allocations of use in
13	a special recreation permit, the Secretary shall—
14	(1) take into consideration the performance of
15	the special recreation permit holder during the re-
16	viewed period; and
17	(2) if the special recreation permit holder re-
18	ceives a satisfactory performance review, allocate to
19	the special recreation permit holder the highest level
20	of actual annual use during the period under review
21	plus 25 percent of that use, not to exceed the level
22	allocated to the special recreation permit holder on
23	the date on which the special recreation permit was
24	issued.
25	(b) Additional Capacity.—

1	(1) In general.—If additional use capacity is
2	available the Secretary may, at any time, assign ad-
3	ditional use capacity to 1 or more qualified recre-
4	ation service providers.
5	(2) Assignment not subject to cap on
6	USE.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), in assigning
7	additional use capacity under paragraph (1), the
8	Secretary may assign additional use capacity to an
9	existing special recreation permit holder even if that
10	assignment would exceed the amount of use allo-
11	cated to the special recreation permit holder on the
12	date on which the special recreation permit was
13	issued.
14	(c) Waiver.—The Secretary may waive a special
15	recreation permit use review for any period during which
16	use of the assigned capacity has been prevented by a cir-
17	cumstance beyond the control of the special recreation per-
18	mit holder, such as—
19	(1) unfavorable weather;
20	(2) fire;
21	(3) natural disaster;
22	(4) wildlife displacement;
23	(5) business interruption;
24	(6) insufficient availability of hunting and fish-
25	ing licenses; or

1	(7) significant seasonal variability or off-peak
2	periods within the allocated period of use.
3	(d) Approval of Non-use.—
4	(1) In general.—In any circumstance for
5	which the holder of a special recreation permit would
6	qualify for a waiver under subsection (c), on request
7	of the holder of the special recreation permit, the
8	Secretary may approve non-use by the holder of the
9	special recreation permit without reducing the num-
10	ber of service days assigned to the special recreation
11	permit.
12	(2) TEMPORARY REASSIGNMENT OF USE.—The
13	Secretary may temporarily assign any period of non-
14	use approved under paragraph (1) to any other ex-
15	isting or potential permittee.
16	SEC. 108. LIABILITY.
17	(a) Exculpatory Agreements.—
18	(1) In general.—A Federal land management
19	agency shall not implement, administer, or enforce
20	any regulation, guidance, or policy regarding the use
21	of an exculpatory agreement between a special recre-
22	ation permit holder and a customer of the special
23	recreation permit holder relating to services provided
24	under a special recreation permit.

1	(2) Savings clause.—Nothing in this sub-
2	section preempts, displaces, modifies, or eliminates
3	any State law (including common law) regarding ex-
4	culpatory agreements.
5	(b) Indemnification by Government Enti-
6	TIES.—The Secretary concerned may not require a recre-
7	ation service provider to indemnify the United States as
8	a condition for issuing a special recreation permit for a
9	public land unit under this section 803(h) of the Federal
10	Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6802(h))
11	if—
12	(1) the recreation service provider is prohibited
13	by State or local law from providing indemnification
14	to the United States; and
15	(2) the recreation service provider—
16	(A) carries the minimum amount of liabil-
17	ity insurance coverage required by the issuing
18	agency for the activities conducted under the
19	special recreation permit; or
20	(B) is self-insured for the same amount.
21	SEC. 109. COST RECOVERY REFORM.
22	(a) Revision of Regulations.—
23	(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
24	the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
25	Agriculture shall revise section 251.58 of title 36,

1	Code of Federal Regulations, and the Secretary of
2	the Interior shall revise subsections (e) and (f) of
3	section 2932.31 of title 43, Code of Federal Regula-
4	tions, to be consistent with this section.
5	(2) Limitation.—In carrying out paragraph
6	(1), the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary
7	of the Interior shall not include anything in the re-
8	vised regulations that would limit the authority of
9	the Secretary concerned to issue or renew special
10	recreation permits.
11	(b) DE MINIMIS EXEMPTION FROM COST RECOV-
12	ERY.—
13	(1) In general.—Any regulation promulgated
14	by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of
15	Agriculture to establish fees to recover the costs of
16	processing an application for a special recreation
17	permit issued by the U.S. Forest Service or the Bu-
18	reau of Land Management, or for monitoring an au-
19	thorization under a special recreation permit issued
20	by the U.S. Forest Service or the Bureau of Land
21	Management, shall include an exemption providing
22	that fees may not be recovered for not less than the
22 23	that fees may not be recovered for not less than the first 50 hours of work necessary in any 1 year to

1	(2) Multiple applications.—In situations
2	involving multiple applications for special recreation
3	permits issued by the U.S. Forest Service or the Bu-
4	reau of Land Management for similar services in the
5	same public land unit or area that, in the aggregate,
6	require more hours to process than are exempt
7	under the regulations promulgated under paragraph
8	(1), the Secretary concerned shall, regardless of
9	whether the applications are solicited or unsolicited
10	and whether there is competitive interest—
11	(A) determine the share of the aggregate
12	quantity of hours to be allocated to each appli-
13	cation on an equal or prorated basis, as appro-
14	priate; and
15	(B) for each application, apply a separate
16	exemption as specified in the regulations pro-
17	mulgated under paragraph (1) to the share of
18	the aggregate hours allocated to the application.
19	(c) Cost Reduction.—To the maximum extent
20	practicable, the agency processing an application for a spe-
21	cial recreation permit shall use existing studies and anal-
22	ysis to reduce the quantity of work and costs necessary
23	to process the application.

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1	SEC. 110. EXTENSION OF SPECIAL RECREATION PERMITS.
2	(a) In General.—Subject to subsection (b), if the
3	holder of a long-term special recreation permit makes a
4	timely and sufficient request for renewal of the long-term
5	special recreation permit, the expiration of the permit
6	shall be tolled in accordance with the undesignated matter
7	following section 558(c)(2) of title 5, United States Code,
8	until such time as the request for renewal has been finally
9	determined by the Secretary concerned.
10	(b) Limitation.—Any tolling under subsection (a)
11	shall be for a period of not more than 5 years.
12	(c) Responsibility of the Secretary Con-
13	CERNED.—Before allowing the expiration of a permit to
14	be tolled under subsection (a), the Secretary concerned,
15	to the maximum extent practicable, shall complete the re-
16	newal process.
17	SEC. 111. AVAILABILITY OF FEDERAL AND STATE RECRE-
18	ATION PASSES.
19	(a) In General.—The Federal Lands Recreation
20	Enhancement Act is amended by inserting after section
21	805 (16 U.S.C. 6804) the following:
22	"SEC. 805A. AVAILABILITY OF FEDERAL AND STATE RECRE-
23	ATION PASSES.
24	"(a) Establishment of Program.—
25	"(1) In general.—To improve the availability

of Federal and State outdoor recreation passes, the

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1	Secretaries are encouraged to consult with States to
2	coordinate the availability of Federal and State
3	recreation passes to allow a purchaser to buy a Fed-
4	eral recreation pass and a State recreation pass in
5	the same transaction.
6	"(2) Included passes.—Passes covered by
7	the program established under paragraph (1) in-
8	clude—
9	"(A) an America the Beautiful—the Na-
10	tional Parks and Federal Recreational Lands
11	Pass under section 805; and
12	"(B) any pass covering any fees charged
13	by participating States and localities for en-
14	trance and recreational use of parks and public
15	land in the participating States.
16	"(b) AGREEMENTS WITH STATES.—
17	"(1) In general.—The Secretaries, after con-
18	sultation with the States, may enter into agreements
19	with States to coordinate the availability of passes
20	as described in subsection (a).
21	"(2) Revenue from Pass Sales.—The agree-
22	ments between the Secretaries and the States shall
23	ensure that—
24	"(A) funds from the sale of State passes
25	are transferred to the appropriate State agency;

1	"(B) funds from the sale of Federal passes
2	are transferred to the appropriate Federal
3	agency; and
4	"(C) fund transfers are completed by the
5	end of a fiscal year for all pass sales occurring
6	during the fiscal year.
7	"(3) Notice.—In entering into an agreement
8	under paragraph (1), the Secretaries shall publish in
9	the Federal Register a notice describing the agree-
10	ment.".
11	(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
12	for the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16
13	U.S.C. 6801 et seq.) is amended by inserting after the
14	item relating to section 805 the following:
	"Sec. 805A. Availability of Federal and State recreation passes.".
15	SEC. 112. ONLINE PURCHASES OF AMERICA THE BEAU-
16	TIFUL—THE NATIONAL PARKS AND FEDERAL
17	RECREATIONAL LANDS PASS.
18	(a) In General.—Section 805(a)(6) of the Federal
19	Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C.
20	6804(a)(6)) is amended by striking subparagraph (A) and
21	inserting the following:
22	"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries shall
23	sell the America the Beautiful—the National
24	Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass—

1	"(i) at all Federal recreational lands
2	and waters at which an entrance fee or a
3	standard amenity recreation fee is charged
4	where feasible to do so;
5	"(ii) at such other locations as the
6	Secretaries consider appropriate and fea-
7	sible; and
8	"(iii) through the website of each of
9	the Federal land management agencies and
10	the websites of the relevant units and
11	subunits of those agencies, with—
12	"(I) a prominent link on each
13	website; and
14	$"(\Pi)$ information about where
15	and when passes are needed.".
16	(b) Entrance Pass and Amenity Fees.—The Sec-
17	retaries shall make available for payment online, if appro-
18	priate and feasible, for each public land unit where passes
19	and fees are required—
20	(1) all entrance fees under section 803(e) of the
21	Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16
22	U.S.C. 6802(e));
23	(2) all standard amenity recreation fees under
24	section 803(f) of that Act (16 U.S.C. 6802(f)); and

1	(3) all expanded amenity recreation fees under
2	section 803(g) of that Act (16 U.S.C. 6802(g)).
3	TITLE II—ACCESSING THE
4	OUTDOORS
5	SEC. 201. ACCESS FOR SERVICEMEMBERS AND VETERANS.
6	(a) In General.—The Secretaries are encouraged to
7	work with the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of
8	Veterans Affairs to ensure servicemembers and veterans
9	have access to outdoor recreation and to outdoor-related
10	volunteer and wellness programs as a part of the basic
11	services provided to servicemembers and veterans.
12	(b) Inclusion of Information.—Each branch of
13	the Armed Forces is encouraged to include information
14	regarding outdoor recreation and outdoors-based careers
15	in the materials and counseling services focused on resil-
16	ience and career readiness provided in transition pro-
17	grams, including—
18	(1) the benefits of outdoor recreation for phys-
19	ical and mental health;
20	(2) resources to access guided outdoor trips and
21	other outdoor programs connected to the Depart-
22	ment of Veterans Affairs; and
23	(3) information regarding programs and jobs
24	focused on continuing national service such as the

1	Public Land Corps, AmeriCorps, or a conservation
2	corps program.
3	(c) Outdoor Recreation Program Attend-
4	ANCE.—Each branch of the Armed Forces is encouraged
5	to permit members of the Armed Forces on active duty
6	status, at the discretion of the commander of the member,
7	to use not more than 7 days of a permissive temporary
8	duty assignment or terminal leave allotted to the member
9	to participate in a program related to environmental stew-
10	ardship or guided outdoor recreation following deploy-
11	ment.
12	(d) Veteran Hiring.—The Secretaries are strongly
13	encouraged to hire veterans in all positions related to the
14	management of Federal recreational lands and waters.
15	TITLE III—MAKING RECREATION
16	A PRIORITY
17	SEC. 301. EXTENSION OF SEASONAL RECREATION OPPOR-
18	TUNITIES.
19	(a) In General.—
20	(1) Extension of recreational season.—
21	The relevant unit managers of Federal recreational
22	lands and waters managed by the Forest Service,
23	the Bureau of Land Management, and the National
24	Park Service may—

1	(A) identify areas of Federal recreational
2	lands and waters in which recreation use is
3	highly seasonal;
4	(B) where appropriate, extend the recre-
5	ation season or increase recreation use in a sus-
6	tainable manner during the offseason; and
7	(C) make information about extended sea-
8	son schedules and related recreational opportu-
9	nities available to the public and local commu-
10	nities.
11	(2) Clarification.—Nothing in this sub-
12	section precludes the Secretaries from providing for
13	additional recreational opportunities and uses at
14	times other than those referred to in paragraph (1).
15	(b) Inclusions.—An extension under subsection
16	(a)(1) may include—
17	(1) the addition of facilities that would increase
18	recreation use during the offseason; and
19	(2) improvement of access to the area to extend
20	the season.
21	(c) Requirement.—An extension under subsection
22	(a)(1) shall be compatible with all applicable Federal laws,
23	regulations, and policies, including land use plans.

1	SEC. 302. RECREATION PERFORMANCE METRICS.
2	(a) IN GENERAL.—The Chief of the Forest Service
3	and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management shall
4	evaluate land managers under their jurisdiction based on
5	the achievement of applicable agency recreational and
6	tourism metrics as described in applicable land manage-
7	ment plans.
8	(b) Metrics.—
9	(1) In general.—The metrics used to evaluate
10	recreation and tourism outcomes shall ensure—
11	(A) the advancement of recreation and
12	tourism goals; and
13	(B) the ability of the land manager to en-
14	hance the outdoor experience of the visitor.
15	(2) Inclusions.—The metrics referred to in
16	paragraph (1) shall include—
17	(A) the extent of positive economic im-
18	pacts;
19	(B) visitation by families;
20	(C) the number of visiting school and
21	youth groups;
22	(D) the number of available recreational
23	opportunities;
24	(E) the quality of visitor experience;
25	(F) the number of recreational and envi-
26	ronmental educational programs offered;

1	(G) visitor satisfaction; and
2	(H) the maintenance and expansion of ex-
3	isting recreation infrastructure.
4	SEC. 303. RECREATION MISSION.
5	(a) Definition of Federal Agency.—In this sec-
6	tion, the term "Federal agency" means each of—
7	(1) the Corps of Engineers;
8	(2) the Bureau of Reclamation;
9	(3) the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission;
10	and
11	(4) the Department of Transportation.
12	(b) Mission.—With respect to the mission of the
13	Federal agency, each Federal agency shall consider how
14	land and water management decisions can enhance recre-
15	ation opportunities and the recreation economy.
16	TITLE IV—MAINTENANCE OF
17	PUBLIC LAND
18	Subtitle A—Volunteers
19	SEC. 401. PRIVATE-SECTOR VOLUNTEER ENHANCEMENT
20	PROGRAM.
21	(a) Purpose.—The purpose of this section is to pro-
22	mote private-sector volunteer programs within the Depart-
23	ment of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture
24	to enhance stewardship, recreation access, and sustain-
25	ability of the resources, values, and facilities of the Fed-

1	eral recreational lands and waters managed by the Federal
2	land management agencies.
3	(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:
4	(1) Secretary concerned.—The term "Sec-
5	retary concerned" means—
6	(A) the Secretary of Agriculture (acting
7	through the Chief of the Forest Service), with
8	respect to National Forest System land; and
9	(B) the Secretary of the Interior, with re-
10	spect to land managed by the Bureau of Land
11	Management.
12	(2) VOLUNTEER.—The term "volunteer" means
13	any individual who performs volunteer services under
14	this section.
15	(c) Establishment.—The Secretary concerned
16	shall carry out a program under which the Secretary con-
17	cerned shall—
18	(1) enhance private-sector volunteer programs;
19	(2) actively promote private-sector volunteer op-
20	portunities; and
21	(3) provide outreach to, and coordinate with,
22	the private sector for the purposes described in para-
23	graphs $(1)$ and $(2)$ .
24	(d) Cooperative Agreements for Stewardship
25	OF FEDERAL LAND —

1	(1) Authority to enter into agree-
2	MENTS.—The Secretary concerned may enter into
3	cooperative agreements (in accordance with section
4	6305 of title 31, United States Code) with private
5	agencies, organizations, institutions, corporations,
6	individuals, or other entities to carry out one or
7	more projects or programs with a Federal land man-
8	agement agency in accordance with this section.
9	(2) Project and program instructions.—
10	The Secretary concerned shall include in the cooper-
11	ative agreement the desired outcomes of the project
12	or program and the guidelines for the volunteers to
13	follow, including—
14	(A) the physical boundaries of the project
15	or program;
16	(B) the equipment the volunteers are au-
17	thorized to use to complete the project or pro-
18	gram;
19	(C) the training the volunteers are re-
20	quired to complete, including agency consider-
21	ation and incorporation of training offered by
22	qualified nongovernmental organizations and
23	volunteer partner organizations;

1	(D) the actions the volunteers are author-
2	ized to take to complete the project or program;
3	and
4	(E) any other information that the Sec-
5	retary concerned determines necessary for the
6	volunteer group to complete the project or pro-
7	gram.
8	(3) Authorized projects and programs.—
9	Subject to paragraph (4), the Secretary concerned
10	may use a cooperative agreement to carry out
11	projects and programs for Federal land that—
12	(A) promote the stewardship of resources
13	of Federal land by volunteers;
14	(B) support maintaining the resources,
15	trails, and facilities on Federal land in a sus-
16	tainable manner;
17	(C) increase awareness, understanding,
18	and stewardship of Federal land through the
19	development, publication, or distribution of edu-
20	cational materials and products; and
21	(D) promote the use of Federal land as
22	outdoor classrooms.
23	(4) Conditions on use of authority.—The
24	Secretary concerned may use a cooperative agree-
25	ment under paragraph (1) to carry out a project or

1	program for the Federal land only if the project or
2	program—
3	(A) complies with all Federal laws (includ-
4	ing regulations) and policies;
5	(B) is consistent with an applicable man-
6	agement plan for any Federal recreational lands
7	and waters involved;
8	(C) is monitored by the relevant Federal
9	land management agency during the project
10	and after project completion to determine com-
11	pliance with the instructions under paragraph
12	(2); and
13	(D) satisfies such other terms and condi-
14	tions as the Secretary concerned determines to
15	be appropriate.
16	SEC. 402. ENHANCING OUTDOOR RECREATION THROUGH
17	PUBLIC LANDS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS.
18	In carrying out projects on public lands that would
19	directly or indirectly enhance recreation, the Secretaries
20	shall—
21	(1) to the maximum extent practicable—
22	(A) use qualified youth or conservation
23	corps as defined in section 203(11) of the Pub-
24	lie Lands Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C.
25	1722(11)); and

1	(B) use non-profit wilderness and trails
2	stewardship organizations;
3	(2) consult with the Corps Network, the Na-
4	tional Wilderness Stewardship Alliance, American
5	Trails, and other public lands stewardship organiza-
6	tions for the purpose of identifying appropriate
7	projects, activities, and workforce development out-
8	comes; and
9	(3) waive any matching funds requirements, in-
10	cluding under section 212(a)(1) of the Public Lands
11	Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1729(a)(1)).
12	Subtitle B—Priority Trail
_	<del>_</del>
13	Maintenance
	Maintenance SEC. 411. INTERAGENCY TRAIL MANAGEMENT.
13	
13 14	SEC. 411. INTERAGENCY TRAIL MANAGEMENT.
13 14 15	SEC. 411. INTERAGENCY TRAIL MANAGEMENT.  (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries shall establish an interagency trail management plan to manage and main-
13 14 15 16	SEC. 411. INTERAGENCY TRAIL MANAGEMENT.  (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries shall establish an interagency trail management plan to manage and main-
13 14 15 16	SEC. 411. INTERAGENCY TRAIL MANAGEMENT.  (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries shall establish an interagency trail management plan to manage and maintain in a uniform manner trails that cross jurisdictional
13 14 15 16 17	SEC. 411. INTERAGENCY TRAIL MANAGEMENT.  (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries shall establish an interagency trail management plan to manage and maintain in a uniform manner trails that cross jurisdictional boundaries between Federal land management agencies.

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill to promote innovative approaches to outdoor recreation on Federal land and to increase opportunities for collaboration with non-Federal partners, and for other purposes.".

